RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2100

09/670,073

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Richard M. Shupak et al.

Examiner:

Kevin T. Bates

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Application No.:

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2155

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via factionale to 703-872-9306, Commissioner for Patents, Alta: Examiner Kevin T. Bates, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 24,

Name: Timethy P. Sullivan

DNE

9/23/04

## AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

VIA FACSIMILE #703.872.9306 Commissioner for Patents ATTN: Examiner Kevin T. Bates P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This response is submitted in reply to the final Office action mailed June 23, 2004. In view of the following amendment and response, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application. Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.